



17/4
KONIG 003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

re patent application of
DIETER MEISSNER ET AL.

GROUP ART UNIT: 1714
#4
10-5-01

U.S. Serial No.: 09/830,896

Filing Date: May 2, 2001

For: METHOD FOR ADJUSTING THE FUEL:
CONCENTRATION OF A FUEL
MIXTURE CONTAINING ALCOHOL
OR ETHER AS FUEL AND WATER,
USED BY A FUEL CELL AND A FUEL
CELL SYSTEM

I hereby certify that this correspondence and/or fee is being deposited
with the United States Postal Services as First Class Mail in an
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Yara M. Laposa 9-27-01
(Signature) (Date)

X
Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

RECEIVED
OCT 4 2001
TC 1700

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, applicants
and their attorney respectfully request that the following patents and publications be made
of record as official references in the above-identified application.

U.S. Patents.

3,425,873*
4,810,597*

Foreign Patent Publications

European Patent Publication No. 0 181 569*
Japanese Patent Abstract Publication No. 56118273*
Japanese Patent Abstract Publication No. 63055864*
German Offenlegungsschrift No. 35 08 153*
German Offenlegungsschrift No. 1 902 481*
German Offenlegungsschrift No. 197 01 560
German Patentschrift No. 44 25 634
German Patentschrift No. 196 28 888

Publications

W. Vielstich, "Brennstoffelemente" [Fuel Elements]
Verlag Chemie, Weinheim 1965, pages 73-93.

L. Oniciu, "Types of Fuel Cells", Abacus-Press, Kent, 1976, pages 93-98.

H. Strahtmann, "Membranes and Membrane Separation processes",
B. Elvers, et al., "Ullmanns Encyclopedia of Industrial
Chemistry", Vol. A. 16. VCH, Weinheim, 1990, pages 187-209.

Bomes, et al., "Optically Based Methods for Process Analysis",
SPIE Proceedings Vol. 1681, Somerset, NJ, USA, March 1992.

FMC-Handbuch der Biotechnologie [FMC Biotechnology Manual]
Kempe GmbH, Berlin.

The above-listed U.S. patents and foreign patent publications that are designated with an asterisk ("*") were cited in an International Search Report issued in connection with applicants' corresponding International application (i.e., PCT/DE99/03384), which was published as WIPO Publication No. WO 00/26978 on May 11, 2000. With reference to the attached copy of the International Search Report, it provides an indication as to the relevance of the references listed therein. More particularly, the International Search Report assigns a category "A" designation (i.e., a document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance) to all of the references cited therein. The background section of the present application includes discussions of the remaining publications as well as German Offenlegungsschrift No. 35 08 153. An International Preliminary Examination Report was also issued in connection with applicants' International application. The International Preliminary Examination Report, a translation of which is attached hereto, contains a discussion of Japanese Patent Abstract Publication No. 63055864. In the foregoing circumstances, no further comments are deemed necessary in connection with the references cited herein.

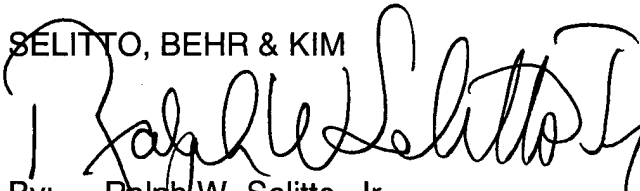
While English-language translations of German Offenlegungsschrift Nos. 35 08 153, 1 902 481 and 197 01 560, German Patentschrift Nos. 44 25 634 and 196 28 888 and the Vielstich publication are presently unavailable, applicants' attorney notes that an English-language translation of the relevant sections of the FMC publication is attached herewith. In addition, U.S. Patent No. 4,810,597 is the English-language counterpart to German Offenlegungsschrift No. 35 08 153. In the event the Examiner decides that an English-language translation of any of the other foreign language references would be helpful, applicants' attorney will provide the United States Patent and Trademark Office with an appropriate English-language translation upon the Examiner's request for same.

In order to facilitate the Examiner's citation of the patents and publications listed above, applicants' attorney has completed United States Patent and Trademark Office Form PTO-1449. The completed Form is attached hereto for the Examiner's convenience.

No fees are believed to be due in connection with the submittal of this Information Disclosure Statement. However, if any such fees are due, the Examiner is hereby authorized to charge them to Deposit Account No. 19-1218.

Respectfully submitted,

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